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### COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

#### Improvements in or relating to Shop Front Blinds, Awnings, Tent Tops or the like.

I, ULRIC LOOK ORCHARD-LISLE, of 81, Great Portland Street, London, W.1, of British Nationality, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent  
5 may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement :—

This invention relates to shop front  
10 blinds, awnings, tent-tops, and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a construction of such blind, awning or the like which will permit water to drain off the surface thereof satisfactorily.

15 According to the present invention, the material of a shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like is formed as a number of juxtaposed panels whose side edges lie in substantially the same plane and the portion  
20 of the material spanning each panel is wider at one end of the panel than at the other end thereof, so that the material hangs lower at one end of the panel than at the other.

In a preferred construction, according to  
25 the invention, the material is supported on a frame including a number of parallel bars or rods and the width of the portion of the material which is supported between two adjacent bars is greater at one end than at  
30 the other so that the material is formed into a number of sloping channels or troughs each extending longitudinally between two adjacent bars. Alternatively the material forming a panel is seamed along its centre  
35 line with the depth of material folded into the seam greater at one end than at the other.

Preferably, alternate channels slope in  
40 opposite directions, although constructions in which all the channels slope in the same direction are within the scope of the invention.

The material of the blind, or the like,  
45 may be in the form of a single sheet so attached to the bars that the width of the

portion of the sheet which is supported between two adjacent bars at one end or side of the sheet is greater than the width of the portion of the sheet which is supported at the same end or side of the sheet between  
50 the next two adjacent bars.

Alternatively, each portion of the material which is supported between two adjacent bars may be a separate piece.

In order that the invention may be more  
55 completely understood, two constructions according thereto will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings, in  
60 which :—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a folding blind having troughs of V-shaped cross section and

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a folding  
65 blind having troughs of curved cross-section.

In the construction shown in Figure 1, the blind comprises a sheet of material, indicated generally at A, which is supported on parallel rods B forming part of a folding or collapsible frame. Each rod B is attached  
70 at each of its ends to a corresponding one of a series of vertical bars C connected by lazy tongs of which the links D are mutually pivoted at E and to bars C at G and F.

The left hand bar C<sup>1</sup> in each of the lazy-  
75 tongs is provided with means (not shown) for attaching it to a fixed element, for example, the part of a building above a window to be protected, and the bars C<sup>2</sup> at the opposite end are connected by a cross  
80 bar C<sup>3</sup> which may carry an eye or other member for engagement by the hooked end of a pole used to pull the blind out into the open condition or push it back into the closed  
85 or folded condition.

The sheet A of material, forming the blind has two opposite edges respectively attached to one of the two outermost rods B, for example, by loops or sleeves of fabric or other flexible material embracing the rods  
90

and stitched or otherwise attached to the underside of the sheet A. The sheet A is also similarly attached to each of the intermediate rods B so that it is divided into panels.

Considering the extreme left hand panel in Figure 1 the portion of the sheet A forming this panel is formed with a seam H1 along its centre line J1, the depth of the material folded into the seam being greater at the end K1 of the panel than at the end K2 thereof, with the result that the effective width of the material at the end K1 is less than its effective width at the end K2. By this means the panel is formed into a trough L1 of V-section which slopes from K1 towards K2.

In the adjacent panel the deepest part of the seam H2 is at the opposite end K2 of the panel so that the trough L2 formed thereby slopes from the end K2 towards the end K1.

Each of the third and fifth panels has a seam H1 of which the depth, like that of the seam H1 in the first panel, is greatest at the end K1 so that the third and fifth panels are formed into troughs L1 of V-section which slope in the same direction as the first panel, that is to say, from the end K1 to the end K2.

In the fourth and sixth panels, the seam H2, similarly to the seam of the second panel has its greatest depth at the end K2 so that these panels are formed into troughs L2 which slope in the same direction as the second panel, that is to say, from the end K2 to the end K1.

Thus the sheet A is formed into a series of V-section troughs of which alternate troughs slope in opposite directions, thereby preventing water from collecting on the blind by permitting it to run off from the deeper ends of the troughs.

In the construction shown in Figure 2, the sheet A1 of material forming the blind is supported on parallel rods B forming part of a folding or collapsible frame including lazy tongs which is constructed similarly to that shown in Figure 1 and of which the parts are indicated in Figure 2 by the same reference characters as those used in Figure 1.

In the construction of Figure 2, the sheet A1 is attached to the rods B in such a way that the width of the sheet material between adjacent rods B at one end M1 of each of the panels into which the sheet is divided is greater than at the other end M2 so that the material hangs down to a greater extent at the end M1 than at the end M2 and a trough of curved section sloping from M2 to M1 is formed between adjacent rods B2, alternate troughs sloping in opposite directions.

In such constructions the blind may be provided with depending sides or valances constructed to fold fanwise or concertina

fashion when the blind is collapsed and in cases where an awning is to be used, for example, against the wall of a house, the sides may extend to the ground.

The invention provides the advantage that no box or cover is required to protect the blind against rain when collapsed, because the inclined bottoms of the troughs cause the rainwater to run off.

What I claim is:—

1. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like, wherein the material thereof is formed as a number of juxtaposed panels whose side edges lie in substantially the same plane and the portion of material spanning each panel is wider at one end of the panel than at the other end thereof, so that said material hangs lower at one end of each panel than at the other whereby a sloping channel or trough is formed.

2. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like according to Claim 1, wherein the material is supported on a frame including a number of parallel bars or rods and the width of the portion of the material which is supported between two adjacent bars is greater at one end than at the other; so that the material is formed into a number of sloping channels or troughs each extending longitudinally between two adjacent bars.

3. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the material forming a panel is seamed along its centre line with the depth of material folded into the seam greater at one end than at the other.

4. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the material is in the form of a single sheet so attached to the bars that the width of the portion of the sheet which is supported between two adjacent bars at one end or side of the sheet is greater than the width of the portion of the sheet which is supported at the same end or side of the sheet between the next two adjacent bars.

5. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like according to any of the preceding Claims wherein alternate channels or troughs slope in opposite directions.

6. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like, according to Claims 2 to 5, wherein the parallel bars of the frame are attached at their ends to collapsible sides of the frame, constituted for example by lazy tongs, whereby the blind or the like may be folded up when not in use.

7. A shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like according to Claim 6 provided with depending sides or valances constructed to fold fan-wise or after the manner of a concertina when the blind is folded.

8. A blind constructed substantially as hereinbefore described or as shown in Figure 1 or in Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 25th day of November, 1949.

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# PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

## Improvements in or relating to Shop Front Blinds, Awnings, Tent Tops or the like.

5 I, ULRIC LOOK ORCHARD-LISLE, of 81, Great Portland Street, London, W.1, of British Nationality, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention relates to shop front blinds, awnings, tent-tops, and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a construction of such blind or awning which will permit water to drain off the surface thereof satisfactorily.

15 According to the present invention a shop front blind, awning, tent-top or the like, is divided into panels having parallel edges and of which the length extends across the blind, and the fabric spanning each panel is made wider at one end than at the other so that on extending the blind or awning the wider end of each panel hangs lower than the narrower end thereof, whereby each panel forms a sloping channel from which water can run.

25 In a preferred construction the fabric of the blind or awning is supported on a frame including a number of parallel bars or rods, all of which are disposed in the same plane, the fabric of each individual panel being supported between two adjacent bars of the frame.

30 In such constructions the width of the portion of the fabric which is supported between two adjacent bars is greater at one end than at the other so that the fabric forms a sloping channel or trough extending longitudinally between the bars, and such channels may all slope in the same direction or alternate channels may slope in opposite directions.

40 Each panel may be a separate sheet of fabric but preferably a single sheet of fabric is employed which has dimensions substantially the same as those of the frame, and in such constructions the width of the portion of the fabric which is supported between two adjacent bars is greater than the width of the portion of the fabric which is supported at the same end or side of the fabric between the next two adjacent bars.

50 Thus considering one side of the blind, the end of the first panel of fabric will hang down to say a relatively small extent while

the end of the next panel will hang down to a larger extent and the end of the third panel will hang down to the smaller extent corresponding with the first panel and so on.

At the other side or edge of the blind the end of the first panel will hang down to a relatively large extent corresponding to the extent to which the end of the second panel hangs down at the other side of the blind, whereas the corresponding end of said second panel will hang down to the smaller extent, and the same end of the third panel will hang down to a larger extent.

In other words viewing the blind from one side the observer will see a series of alternating deep and shallow troughs of which the ends at the opposite side of the blind are alternately shallow and deep.

By this construction, the fabric of which the blind is formed provides a series of parallel troughs extending across the blind with alternating troughs sloping in opposite directions whereby water is prevented from collecting in the blind and readily runs off at the deeper ends of the troughs.

The invention is particularly applicable to collapsible shop front blinds or awnings in which case the parallel bars supporting the fabric will be attached to the collapsible sides of the frame which may for example be constructed by lazy tongs.

In such constructions the blind may be provided with depending sides or valences constructed to fold fanwise or concertina fashion when the blind is collapsed and in cases where an awning is to be used, for example, against the wall of a house, the sides may extend to the ground.

The invention provides the advantage that no box or cover is required to protect a blind against rain when collapsed, because the inclined bottoms of the troughs cause the rainwater to run off.

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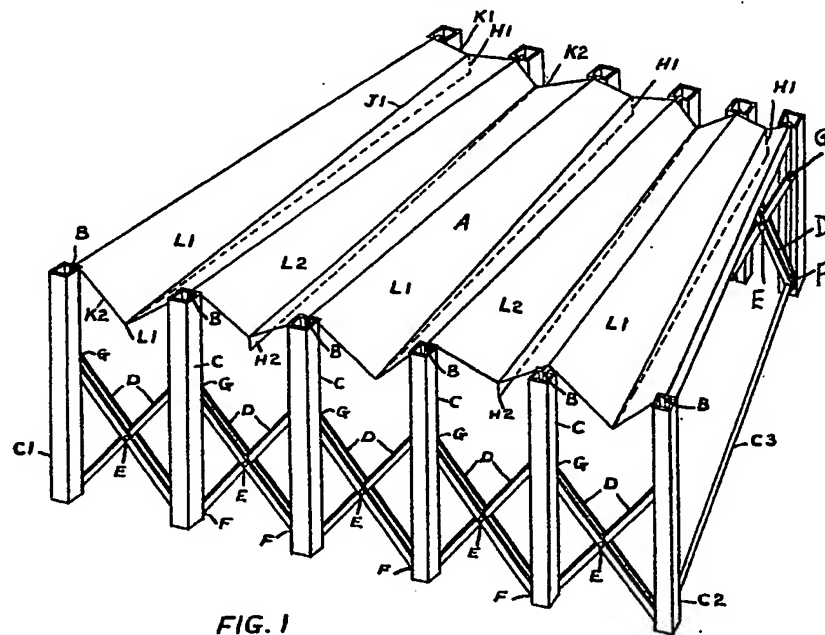


FIG. 1

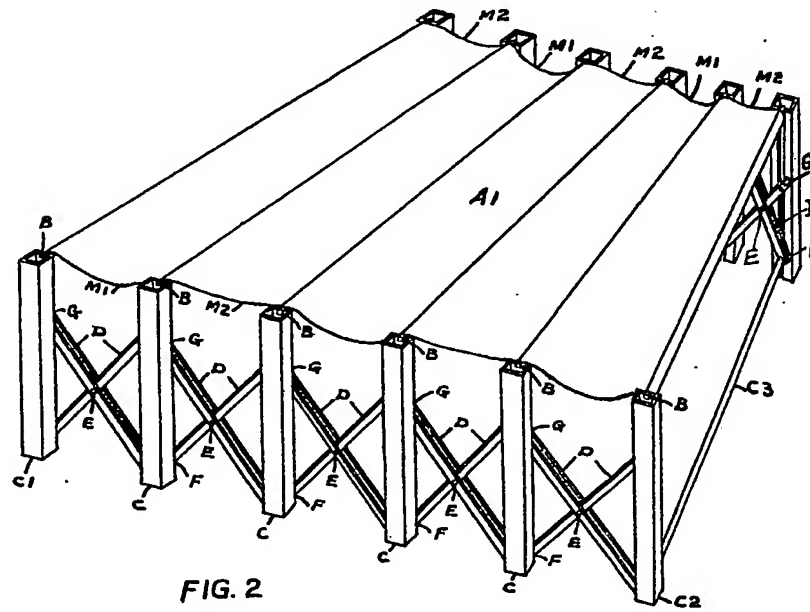


FIG. 2